GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM AND CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5115
ANSWERED ON:21.12.2000
ENTRANCE FEE FOR TOURIST SPOTS
DINSHA J. PATEL

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has imposed entrance fee for foreign tourists visiting tourists spots in the State;

(b) if so, whether tour operators and others protested against the imposition of the fees;

(c) whether imposition of the fee has led to downward trend in the number of foreign tourists visiting the State; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to withdraw the fee to attract foreign tourists?

Answer

MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTHKUMAR)

(a): The Government of Gujarat has imposed fee for entry into Gir Forest.

(b): Tour Operators have protested against imposition of entry fee for Gir Forest and also regarding the entry fee of US Dollars 30 for Banni area in Kutch imposed by Government of India.

(c): The available tourist arrival statistics for Gujarat for last three years do not show a downward trend. The reported arrival figures are as under :

1997		1998		1999	
Domestic	Foreign	Domestic	Foreign	Domestic	Foreign
118994	7994	217661	9002	215270	10185

(d): The Government of India has already withdrawn imposition of entry fees of USD 30 to Banni Area.